

ANN ELISABETH (DIANA ELIZABETH) REINGRUBER

JUNE 19, 1951.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed

Mr. Gossett, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 3819]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 3819) for the relief of Ann Elisabeth (Diana Elizabeth) Reingruber, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of this bill, is to facilitate the admission into the United States of the infant child, adopted by Capt. and Mrs. Billy J. Munnerlyn, citizens of the United States.

GENERAL INFORMATION

This is the case of an infant child, an orphan, who has been adopted in Germany by Capt. and Mrs. Billy J. Munnerlyn, citizens of the United States. The child is not eligible for admission into this country under the provisions of the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, as amended, by virtue of the fact that it was born subsequent to July 1, 1950.

The pertinent facts in this case are contained in a letter dated April 10, 1951, from the adoptive father of the beneficiary of this bill, to Senator Lyndon Johnson. The said letter reads as follows:

WIESBADEN, GERMANY, April 10, 1951.

Hon. LYNDON JOHNSON,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR JOHNSON: The purpose of this letter is to request your assistance in solving a problem which I consider of extreme importance and one which is causing my wife and I considerable anxiety.

My home is in Del Rio, Tex. Although I have never voted, I consider myself a Democrat, as was my father. I have been in the military service since Novem-

ber 9, 1939, and am a Regular officer in the United States Air Force with the permanent rank of captain. My wife and I were married in 1942 and have no children of our own. We have adopted one baby boy, age 2½ years, and acquired his half-sister on February 7, 1951. At the time we brought her into our home she was 2 weeks old. We are currently in the process of adopting her through the German courts, and she is the basis for this letter.

As you know, the Displaced Persons Act, which permits German orphans who are adopted by American citizens to enter the United States on a nonquota visa, does not apply to those born after July 1, 1950. Current immigration laws apply to our little girl. She must enter the United States on a normal quota. The consulate at Frankfurt has advised us that we cannot expect her quota number to be called within the near future. A wait of 1 to 5 years is possible.

Our plans and hopes were to return with the children to the United States during June of this year. These plans were prompted by the possibility of my reassignment to France, where housing is a serious problem. Also, we feel that the climate here in Europe is not conducive to healthy children. Our return to the United States with the two children can be made possible only by obtaining a visa for them. We have assurance on the boy.

The visa for the girl is the problem, and, if possible, we ask that you introduce special legislation on behalf of our child in order that she be permitted to enter the United States. We realize that this is asking for valuable time on your part, but under the prevailing conditions and circumstances, we consider it our only hope. We love the child as our own and know we could never give her up.

Lt. Col. and Mrs. Howard Burris are aware of our problem and have been asked to speak to you.

My child's German name is Ann Elisabeth Reingruber. We have renamed her Diana Elizabeth.

Thanking you for your time and trouble, and assuring you that anything that you can do on our behalf will be most deeply appreciated, I am

Sincerely,

BILLY J. MUNNERLYN,
Captain, USAF, Headquarters, USAFE,
APO 633, New York, N. Y.

Mr. Fisher, the author of this bill, discussed this case extensively with Mr. Gossett, who appeared before a subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary and urged the enactment of H. R. 3819, pointing out to the fact that the beneficiary of this measure is only a few months old and has been legally adopted by a citizen of the United States who is serving in the United States Army.

The committee, having considered all the facts in this case and in view of the fact that similar legislation has been enacted by the Congress, is of the opinion that H. R. 3819 should be enacted, and it accordingly recommends that the bill do pass.

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